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ABSTRACT

This document contains information about outdoor ethics issues. The information was compiled by the Izaak Walton League of America, established in 1922 as a national nonprofit organization whose members educate the public about emerging natural resource threats and promote citizen involvement in environmental protection efforts. The league believes that unless outdoor enthusiasts behave responsibly, we may lose the recreational opportunities our natural resources offer. In addition to a basic brochure describing the Izaak Walton League, there are six single page information sheets on the following topics: (1) wildlife observation ethics; (2) anti-poaching hotline numbers for each state; (3) hunter and landowner relations; (4) camping ethics, (5) fishing ethics; and (6) alcohol and outdoor recreation. An outdoor ethics resource list citing nine items on such subjects as boating ethics and hunting ethics concludes the package. (LP)

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[Outdoor Ethics Information Packet.]

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THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

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GRASSROOTS FOR THE GREAT OUTDOORS

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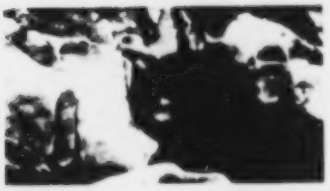
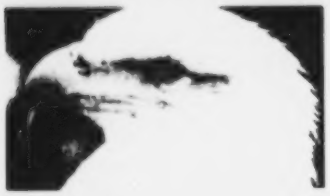
MAKING THE DIFFERENCE

Established in 1922 by a group of concerned anglers, the respected Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA) is a national non-profit organization whose 53,000 members protect and enjoy the nation's soil, air, woods, waters, and wildlife.

For decades, the League has played a pivotal role in the passage of almost every major federal environmental law. But while we are proud of our past, our work is far from over. We need your help to reach our goals. Through our 400 local chapters and 21 state divisions, the League's grassroots membership takes a hands-on approach to conservation in their own backyards.

Joined by professional staff at several regional offices, and our national headquarters near Washington, D.C., League members promote citizen involvement in environmental protection efforts and educate the public about emerging natural resource threats.





The Izaak Walton League tackles such important conservation issues as:

☐ **Clean Water** The League is making America's lakes, streams and groundwater safe for drinking, swimming, fishing and wildlife through national and state laws and through citizen clean water programs, such as Save Our Streams and Wetlands Watch.

☐ **Clean Air** The League supports tough controls on acid rain and airborne toxics that have already killed hundreds of the best fishing lakes in the U.S. and Canada and threaten hundreds of thousands more.

☐ **Wildlife Habitat** Wetlands, old-growth forests, riparian (riverbank) zones–all are keystone habitats the IWLA aims to protect and maintain to benefit birds, fish and other wildlife.

☐ **Public Lands Management** The League works with Congress, foresters, government agencies, ranchers and timber companies to protect water quality and wildlife on our heavily used public forests and rangelands.

☐ **Protection of Natural Areas** Through its land acquisition arm, the Izaak Walton League Endowment, the IWLA helps protect national parks, forests, wilderness areas and other lands from unsound development.

☐ **Enhanced Outdoor Recreation** Ikes strive to protect the outdoor experience and promote public access to recreational lands. As the acknowledged leader in the outdoor ethics movement, the League works with recreationists and state and federal agencies to improve the behavior of outdoor users.

CONSERVING OUR RESOURCES

As a member of the Izaak Walton League, you can get involved in conservation at many levels. You can help frame IWLA national conservation policies and support these issues through the League's Action Network.

Our numerous conservation programs also provide hands-on experience in protecting the outdoors. Founded in 1969, the League's award-winning **Save Our Streams** (SOS) program involves thousands of groups and citizens in hands-on stream adoption projects that include regular monitoring, streambank restoration and learning about water pollution laws.

Wetlands Watch, another IWLA grassroots program, promotes wetland protection by encouraging people to identify, adopt and protect these vital wildlife nurseries. The League's newest wetlands protection program–**Partners for Wetlands**–matches donors with individual wetland habitat projects on privately owned land.

The **Uncle Ike Youth Education Program**, operating at the chapter level, exposes youngsters to the thrill of their natural surroundings and helps build a pool of strong conservation leaders for the future.

Promoting responsible outdoor recreation, such as angling, hunting and hiking, is the goal of the League's internationally-acclaimed **Outdoor Ethics** program. Since 1977, Ikes have worked to reduce poaching, trespassing and other illegal and inconsiderate outdoor activities. Through League publications, such as Outdoor Ethics newsletter, the program encourages conservation education of anglers, hunters and other outdoor users.

ACTING REGIONALLY

To boost its national and local efforts, the League operates several regional programs, including our:

☐ **Midwest office**, based in the Twin Cities in Minnesota. Staff focus on such conservation priorities as protection of the fish and wildlife resources of the Upper Mississippi River region, energy efficiency and clean air issues.

☐ **Soil Conservation Program**, also headquartered in the Midwest. The League's agriculture specialist coordinates IWLA efforts to combat soil erosion and groundwater pollution and to promote farm conservation and sustainable agriculture.

☐ **Chesapeake Bay Program**, aimed at saving the nation's largest estuary. With approximately 25 percent of the League's membership living within the bay's watershed, Ikes are using a mixture of citizen awards, public education, policy development and local wetland and stream protection projects to ensure the future of this productive waterbody.

☐ **Public Lands Restoration Task Force**, whose goal is to help balance competing uses of our western public forests and rangelands and their important water, fish and wildlife resources. Headquartered in Portland under the League's Oregon Division, the program's award-winning Riparian Enhancement Teams provide volunteers to restore fragile streambanks.

TAKING ACTION

1. The **Agassiz, Minn., Chapter**'s Schuneman Marsh is the focus of research on Lyme Disease. Local birdbanders gather deer ticks from low-flying song birds and send them to the Forest Research Project for further study. The chapter also has authored a model wetlands protection ordinance for municipal governments that has already been adopted by the city of Mahtomedi.

2. Thanks to funding by the IWLA Endowment and the hard work of League members, outdoor lovers of all ages are enjoying a variety of programs offered by the **Sheboygan County Outdoor Skills Center** in Wisconsin. The center is used for hands-on teaching of such outdoor pursuits as cross-country skiing, angler and hunter education and bird identification.

5. For years, the **Indiana Division** has sought to protect birds and other wildlife by encouraging creation of the Patoka River Wildlife Refuge.

6. The **Woodford County, Ill., Chapter** has successfully spearheaded efforts to increase the local population of bluebirds, which had almost disappeared from central Illinois.

9. To help boost declining duck populations, the **Pikes Peak, Colo., Chapter** created a duck fund to raise, band and release hundreds of mallard ducks.

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COAST TO COAST

3. The **Charles County, Md., Chapter** purchased a 141-acre historic farm to develop into the Southern Maryland Outdoor Education Center. Located at a critical site near the Jordan and Zekiah swamps, the farm will educate people about threats from contaminated runoff and careless land development and serve as a model of best management practices for a wetlands-edge setting.

4. With the help of IWLA national staff, the **Tennessee Division** defeated a landfill proposal that threatened to pollute local groundwater.

7. The **Ames, Iowa, Chapter** helps with Project Eco, a mobile teaching facility that transports children to the chapter's 77-acre property to learn first-hand about plants and wildlife.

8. The snapping turtles caught for the **Columbus, Neb., Chapter**'s popular turtle meals sometimes contain eggs, which are cared for until the young hatch, grow a bit and can be released into the wild. The chapter also offers weekly trapshoots, an innovative corporation to acquire wetlands, and a new recycling program.

10. The **San Pedro, Calif., Chapter** holds an annual summer fishing derby for inner-city children ages 7 to 12 that teaches urban children how to fish and have fun in the out-of-doors.

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Save Our Streams coordinator Karen Firehock accepts award from President Bush.

Midwest office director Paul Hansen promotes energy efficiency.

An IWLA member displays a bluebird nesting box.

EDUCATING THE PUBLIC

With a membership spread from coast to coast, the League's four publications strive to keep Ikes and others informed of rapidly changing conservation news and issues.

Outdoor America, our quarterly membership magazine, carries in-depth articles on conservation and recreation topics by IWLA staff and well-known outdoor writers. Outdoor Ethics newsletter reaches natural resource managers, outdoor writers and recreationists with articles on responsible behavior in the outdoors.

Splash, the quarterly newsletter of the Save Our Streams program, shares information and ideas on how citizens and businesses can help protect America's waterways. League Leader newsletter keeps the IWLA's 2,000 chapter and division officers informed about new programs and resources. In addition, the League offers numerous brochures, information kits, in-depth conservation reports and public service announcements.

The League also uses television to spread its conservation message. As the longest-running weekly environmental program on television, the League's "Make Peace With Nature" airs stories about current national and international environmental issues.

HELPING US MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Although a diverse group, Izaak Walton League members have several things in common: a love of the land and its community of life and a commitment to protecting America's outdoor heritage and halting the spread of pollution. As a member you add your voice to those of thousands calling for a healthier environment.

☐ You also develop the League's conservation policies, ensuring that the organization always reflects the goals and concerns of its membership;

☐ you provide conservation clout through local projects, as well as state and national grassroots actions;

☐ you are invited to attend the annual convention each July to help frame national resolutions, elect new officers and board members, meet fellow Ikes from across the country and attend conservation workshops and field trips; and

☐ you belong to the IWLA Endowment, an arm of the League that purchases critical natural areas and provides funds for conservation projects.

HELPING YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Whether you join one of the League's 400 chapters or become a national member-at-large, you will receive important membership benefits:

☐ a subscription to our quarterly Outdoor America magazine;

☐ membership in the IWLA Endowment;

☐ an invitation to become an informed activist through our Action Network and to receive insider reports on legislative developments and special Action Alerts on critical conservation issues;

☐ a personalized membership card and colorful window decal;

☐ special low-priced member life and health insurance; and

☐ car rental discounts from Avis.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

YES, I want to protect America's outdoors. Enclosed are my _____member-at-large or_____chapter dues of $_____.

_____
Name

_____
Address

_____
City State Zipcode

Dues include subscription to Outdoor America magazine.

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

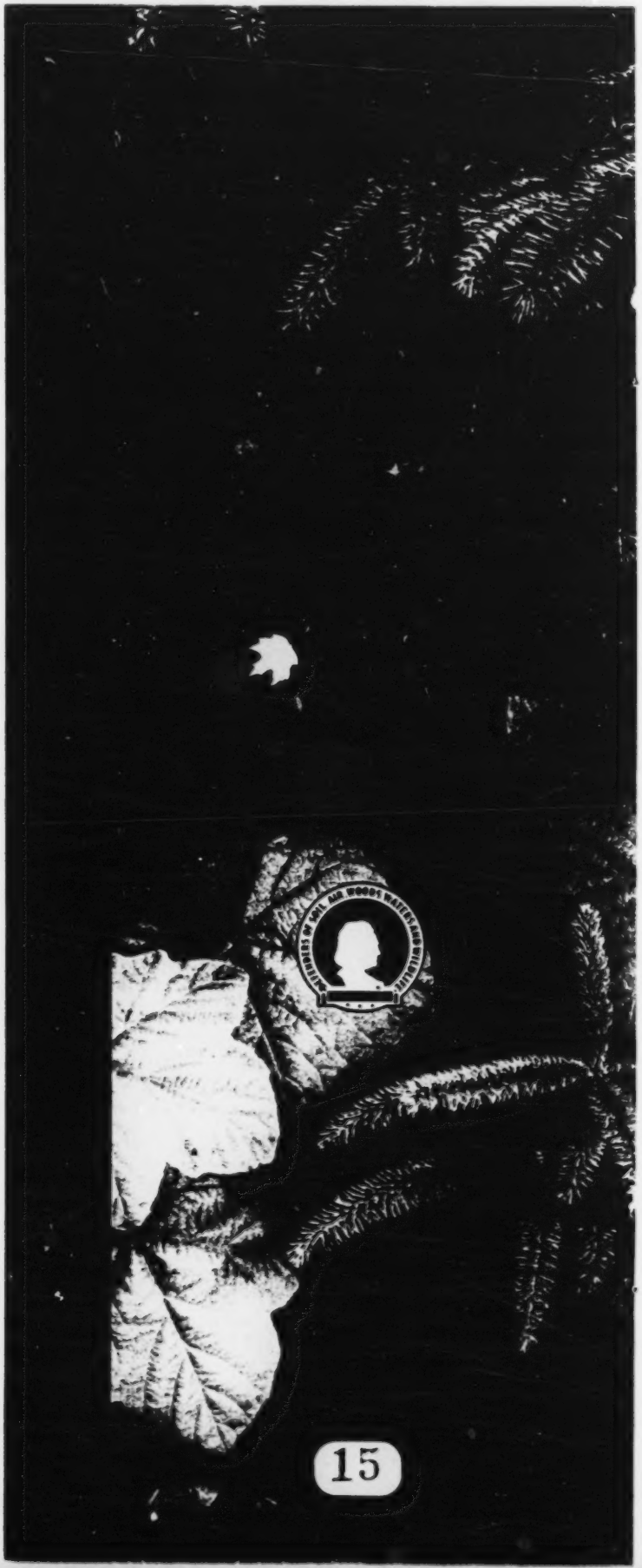
The following dues categories apply to national members-at-large. Chapter privileges are available only through chapter membership.

Annual Memberships				Life Memberships	
☐ Student	$5	☐ Master	$100	☐ Life	$250
☐ Regular	$20	☐ Associate	$250	☐ Family	$375
☐ Family	$30	☐ Sustaining	$500	☐ Life Benefactor	$1000

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Chapter membership is available at any of the League's 400 chapters nationwide. Return this form and your chapter dues to the chapter address listed on the back. If the space on the back is blank, contact the IWLA national office for information about the chapter nearest you. If you would like to establish a new chapter, please contact the membership department at the national office.

Make check payable to the Izaak Walton League of America. Thank you!



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WILDLIFE OBSERVATION ETHICS

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It's standing room only at Yellowstone National Park, where shoulder-to-shoulder wildlife viewers jostle one another to glimpse grazing bison. Bears molest photographers who get too close. A songbird abandons a nest full of eggs when harassed by over-zealous bird watchers.

These are just a few examples of what happens when outdoor lovers take their interest in wildlife too far. In the search for the ultimate wildlife viewing experience, observers and photographers often cross the line between curiosity and harassment, harming wildlife and opportunities for others to view them.

Unfortunately, wildlife facing other serious threats are targets for most of the harassment. For example, rare species already jeopardized by habitat loss, poaching and other problems often are those most likely to be harassed because of their scarcity. Those involved in activities such as nursing young or nesting also are vulnerable.

What You Can Do:

The Colorado Division of Wildlife offers several tips on responsible wildlife observation.

- Observe animals from a distance *they* consider safe. Get your closeup by using binoculars, spotting scopes and telephoto camera lenses. What is a safe distance? You are probably too close if most of the animals are looking at you with heads up and ears pointed toward you, are nervous or jumpy when you move or make a noise. If you see these signs, sit quietly or move away slowly until the behavior changes.

- Move slowly and casually, not directly at wildlife. Allow them to

keep you in view; don't sneak up and surprise them. Most wildlife rely on their eyesight and sense of smell to keep them from danger.

- Never chase wildlife. Don't follow them or behave in any way that might be seen as harassment. Keep pets in your vehicle.
- Using animals' behavior as a guide, limit the time you spend with wildlife, just as you would when visiting a friend's home.
- Respect the space of others who may be viewing the same wildlife. If you approach too closely, you will ruin everyone's opportunity for natural, relaxed photographs and observation.

Other tips include familiarizing yourself with the habits, habitat and other characteristics of the species you wish to observe and reporting all incidents of wildlife harassment to land managers, park police or rangers.

In addition, programs such as the Bureau of Land Management's Watchable Wildlife initiative offer tips on wildlife viewing etiquette and identify areas where certain types of species are likely to be found. For more information on this program, write BLM, Watchable Wildlife, 1849 C St., NW; Washington, D.C. 20240.

Tape Recorder Do's and Don'ts

H. William Gabriel, a forester, wildlifer and photographer who writes on natural resource issues from Florence, Mont., offers several tips on using tape recorders to communicate with and observe animals.

- Take the time to learn the songs and call notes of the species you are interested in pursuing.
- Do not use territorial songs unless you first hear a singing bird.
- Play the call a few times. If no bird responds, move on and try another area.
- Turn off the tape as soon as the bird responds.
- Do not use tapes in areas where people visit a few special birds.
- Use minimum volume. More is not better.

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STATE HOTLINE NUMBERS HELP PREVENT POACHING

Toll-free telephone hotlines for reporting wildlife- and natural resource-related crimes are available in many states. Individual states have different operating procedures, but most follow the same basic principles. For example, hotline information often is published on state game and fish licenses, and hotlines usually are manned 24 hours a day or at least during business hours. Most guarantee anonymity to the caller, and some offer rewards. Contact your state's game and fish department for more information about its hotline.

If you know of an illegal poaching activity and decide to report it by phoning your state's anti-poaching hotline, conservation law enforcement officials suggest you follow these steps:

- Get as many details as possible. Report the nature of the offense, when and where it occurred, etc.
- Describe the individual(s) involved, including hair and eye color, body build, distinguishing marks and clothing. If you know the individual, give a name and address. Remember, you probably won't be asked to give your name or testify or appear in court.
- Note the type of violation and, when possible, the weapon used.
- Get a description of the vehicle(s) used by the violators. Note the color, make and year. Always write down the license number.
- Call promptly, but don't let the fact that time has elapsed prevent you from calling later.

Anti-Poaching Hotline Numbers

State	Telephone Number
Alabama	1-800-272-4263
Alaska	1-800-478-3377
Arizona	1-800-352-0700
Arkansas	1-800-482-9262
California	1-800-952-5400
Colorado	1-800-332-4155
Connecticut	1-800-842-4357
Delaware	1-800-292-3030
Florida	1-800-342-5767
Georgia	1-800-241-4113
Hawaii	1-808-548-5918
Idaho	1-800-632-5999
Illinois	1-800-252-0163
Indiana	1-800-847-4367
Iowa	1-800-532-2020

State	Telephone Number
Kansas	1-800-228-4263
Kentucky	1-800-252-5378
Louisiana	1-800-442-2511
Maine	1-800-253-7887
Maryland	1-800-635-6124
Massachusetts	1-800-632-8075
Michigan	1-800-292-7800
Minnesota	1-800-652-9093
Mississippi	1-800-237-6278
Missouri	1-800-392-1111
Montana	
in-state	1-800-847-6668
out-of-state	1-800-327-3212
Nebraska	1-800-742-7627
Nevada	1-800-992-3030
New Hampshire	1-800-344-4262
New Jersey	1-800-222-0456
New Mexico	1-800-432-4263
New York	1-800-847-7332
North Carolina	1-800-662-7137
North Dakota	1-800-472-2121
Ohio	1-800-762-2437
Oklahoma	1-800-522-8039
Oregon	1-800-452-7888
Pennsylvania	
northwest	1-800-533-6764
southwest	1-800-243-8519
north central	1-800-422-7551
south central	1-800-422-7554
northeast	1-800-228-0789
southeast	1-800-228-0791
Rhode Island	1-401-277-3070
South Carolina	1-800-922-5431
South Dakota	1-800-592-5522
Tennessee	1-800-255-8972
Texas	1-800-792-4263
Utah	1-800-662-3337
Vermont	1-802-752-5378
Virginia	1-800-237-5712
Washington	1-800-477-6224
West Virginia	1-800-638-4263
Wisconsin	1-800-847-9367
Wyoming	1-800-442-4331

This list, originally compiled by the National Parks and Conservation Association, was updated and published in the August 1991 issue of Wapiti, *the member newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.*

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HUNTER/ LANDOWNER RELATIONS

Every year, more private land is closed to hunting and other outdoor activities. Sometimes development, not hunters, is the culprit. For example, suburban sprawl can make hunting unsafe or alter habitat to the detriment of wildlife. Loss of private hunting ground means more hunters on public land, and overcrowding is a growing concern. More than two-thirds of our land is privately held, so we must work with landowners to ensure access for hunters and other recreationists.

Research and common sense tell us landowners' willingness to allow hunters and other recreationists on their property largely depends on what has happened in the past. Simply put, if hunters ask for and receive permission and are respectful of their host, the property, game and other resources, a landowner probably will continue to allow hunting. If not, hunting will be prohibited, or the landowner will restrict access or lease the property only to hunting groups. Use of leases is growing, forcing hunters who can't afford them onto already overcrowded public lands, or worse, to give up hunting.

Several recent studies, including the Izaak Walton League of America's report "Hunter Ethics: A Look at Hunter Behavior and Hunter Education in the U.S. and Canada," show the relationship between hunters and landowners is growing worse. Some of the more common complaints by landowners include:

- poor attitude and behavior by hunters,
- trespassing and failing to obtain permission,
- vandalism, theft and destruction of property, and
- safety concerns.

It should come as no surprise that since the frequency of such complaints has increased, half the U.S. hunter education coordinators say the relationship between hunters and landowners has deteriorated in the past five years. In fact, only 25 percent said there was any improvement. In addition, more than 90 percent of U.S. jurisdictions report increased closure of private land to hunters. There is no denying that hunters must make a strong and lasting effort to improve their behavior and image in the eyes of landowners.

If hunters and other recreationists want courtesy and consideration from landowners, they must be willing to give it. Most of us want nothing to do with guests who abuse our hospitality. Why should we expect anything different from the owner of land on which we hunt? The land usually is their home and often provides their livelihood.

What You Can Do:

To maintain permission to hunt on private land there are some simple guidelines to keep in mind:

- Establish a relationship with the owner well before the hunting season begins. Not only will the owner appreciate not being pres-

sured to grant "on the spot" privileges, but he or she can give you information to help plan your hunting trip(s).

- Maintain year-round contact with the landowner, and offer your assistance with farming or other tasks whenever possible. This also gives you an opportunity to get to know the owner and the land better.

- Never assume that because you have a landowner's permission to hunt that it applies to your guests. Always try to obtain permission for others in advance. Don't tolerate illegal or unethical behavior by anyone in your group, and report any such activity to the owner.

- Always obey all game laws, and hunt safely and ethically. Also ask the landowner if there are any additional rules or guidelines you should follow.

- Don't set up blinds or tree stands without first getting permission from the owner. Let the owner know if you encounter any of these structures — they may have been erected without permission.

- Never litter, and if you find trash left by others, pick it up. Let the owner know what you found and where you found it.

- Leave gates the way you find them. If you think one is open or closed by mistake, let the owner know. In fact, if there is anything you aren't sure about let the owner know.

- Always thank the owner, and offer to share your game. Call or write a note if you don't see the owner at the end of your hunt.

Common sense, courtesy and sportsmanlike behavior will ensure you and others have places to hunt. If you would like to organize a hunter/landowner relations initiative in your area, please consult the enclosed resource and reference list.

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CAMPING ETHICS

The great outdoors is truly great when you have a tent, a backpack and some free time. But more and more outdoor recreationists — by their sheer numbers and often careless behavior — are taking a toll on our wild places.

As the nation's growing population escapes to our parks, forests and other public and private lands, problems such as litter, crowding and destruction of vegetation harm natural resources and diminish the outdoor experience for everyone.

What You Can Do:

- Seek out lesser-known areas or visit popular places during "off-peak" times. Contact local park, forest and other public land managers for suggestions on where to find secluded spots.
- Check with visitor centers, ranger stations, land managers or park personnel for information on fire restrictions, stream crossings and other natural resource and wildlife advisories.
- Select a level campsite at least 200 feet from water sources. To avoid expanding the camp, try to locate a site that already has been used. Find an area where the least amount of damage will be done to vegetation. Do not dig ditches around tents; instead, place a piece of plastic under the tent to prevent water from seeping in.
- Carry out all garbage that cannot be burned, such as aluminum foil, plastics, etc., and pick up litter you find during the trip.
- Pack out all food waste. Even if it is buried, it may be dug up later by wildlife.

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- Use established latrines or dig a "cat hole" at least 200 feet away from water sources, camps or trails. Toilet paper should be completely burned or packed out.
- Avoid using soap as much as possible. If you must, use soaps that are phosphate free, and wash all items at least 200 feet from water sources.
- If you must build a fire (a camp stove is preferable), keep it small, using only dead wood lying on the ground. Be sure to extinguish the fire completely, and bury the ashes.
- Select footwear that will leave the least impact on the terrain, such as sneakers or light-weight hiking shoes, instead of heavy, lug-soled boots.
- Stay on the trail when the trail switches back. Walk through, rather than around, muddy sections of the trail to avoid creating a new path. Stay on established trails and hike single file to avoid widening the path.
- Protect water sources from contamination. If you're not sure of the water's purity, boil it.
- Leave bright colors, stereos and noisy parties at home. Control pets, or better, leave them at home.
- Report any problems with trail conditions, litter or hazards.
- Join an outdoor/camping organization, and help the group promote ethical outdoor behavior.

THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

FISHING ETHICS

Lazy summer afternoons with a fishing rod in hand are the stuff of dreams for many. But an ever-increasing demand on the resource, coupled with impacts from unethical behavior by fishing enthusiasts, are putting fishing and the public's opinion of anglers at risk.

Vandalism, trespassing, littering, fishing law violations, crowding of waterways, improper handling of catch, wasting of catch and abuse of non-targeted fish species are among those problems found on a long, grim list of common complaints compiled at the 1987 International Conference on Outdoor Ethics, sponsored by the Izaak Walton League of America. Anglers can help reduce their impacts by following a few simple rules.

What You Can Do:

- Always get permission from the landowner when fishing in private waters. Obey his or her rules, and offer to share your catch.
- Practice proper catch-and-release fishing techniques to protect the resource for the enjoyment of others.
  - — Use barbless fishing hooks, which cause less damage when they are removed from the fish. If a hook cannot be removed easily, it should be left in the fish, where it may be broken down by the fish's digestive system. If the fish has teeth, use a pair of long pliers to remove the bait.
  - — Do not play out the fish to exhaustion. Lactic acid buildup caused by protein breakdown during vigorous exercise can be fatal to a fish. While the fish may swim away normally, it could die later from lactic acid poisoning.
  - — Wet your hands before handling the fish, and treat it gently. Fish

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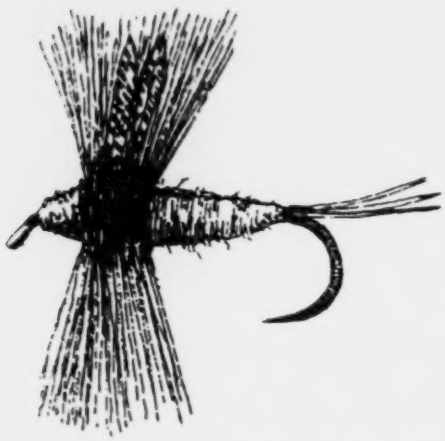

are covered with a protective "slime," and removal of this coating can make fish susceptible to infections.

— Hold the fish by the lower lip in the water, and avoid touching its eyes and gills. If you must remove the fish from the water, grip it by the lower lip and under the belly.

— Keep the fish submerged as much as possible. If you must take a picture, do it quickly, and try to keep the fish in the shade.

— Increase the number of fish released during spawning season, and put back more in small lakes and rivers, they are particularly vulnerable.

- If you do keep your catch, take only what you can use and never more than your legal limit.
- Remember, ethical anglers recognize that the angling experience cannot be measured by the heft of the stringer.
- Gather and recycle all used fishing line, and retrieve sinkers from shallow water.
- Observe all boating laws, and use courtesy with respect to boat speed, rights of way and boat launching and loading.
- Do not disturb or "shuffle" streambottoms to trigger a feeding response by fish. This can disrupt their normal feeding behavior and cause irreparable damage to aquatic life in the streambottom.
- Avoid releasing live bait in fishing waters, and do not introduce non-native species.
- Do not use lawn chemicals or pesticides that could run off land into waterways, harming aquatic environments and wildlife.
- Pass on your knowledge and ethical behavior by setting an example for others, especially youths. Take a child fishing, and demonstrate proper angling techniques.
- Participate in resource enhancement and protection projects, such as fencing critical riparian areas to reduce streambank erosion, eliminating obstructions to fish migration, and monitoring stream water quality.
- Join a conservation organization, such as the Izaak Walton League of America, or an anglers' club and promote ethical fishing behavior to fellow members.

THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

ALCOHOL AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

The stories are more common than beer bottles on fishing boats.

- Carefree power boaters believe a day on the bay wouldn't be complete without a few gin and tonics.
- A little brandy to warm the soul on a chilly autumn morning couldn't hurt the hunter perched in a lofty tree stand.
- Rugged off-highway vehicle (OHV) riders stop for a few cold ones to wash away the dust and dirt. A beer or two helps loosen them up for the rest of the ride.

But all too often, these people are dead wrong. In a nation increasingly intolerant of drunk drivers, outdoor recreationists who drink and play at the same time don't seem to realize that irresponsible use of alcohol can injure or kill just as easily in the forest and on the water as it does on the highway.

While statistics on alcohol-related outdoor recreation incidents are scarce, those that are available are sobering. For example, nearly 50 percent of boating fatalities are alcohol related, according to the U.S. Coast Guard. In addition, U.S. Forest Service statistics for 1990 show 75 incidents of public drunkenness, 398 of driving an OHV under the influence, and 1,289 of possessing alcohol in areas where it is prohibited. And according to Forest Service officials, these numbers are way under-reported.

12-Ounce Beers (Two-Hour Period)

Weight	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
100	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
120	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
140	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
160	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
180	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
200	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
220	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
240	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Be Careful Driving BAC to .05%				Driving May Be Impaired .05%-.09%		Be Not Able .10% & Up	

This chart provides averages only. Individuals may vary, and factors such as food in the stomach, medication, mood and fatigue can affect your tolerance.

Anheuser-Busch, Inc.

Alcohol blurs vision, slows reflexes and impairs the judgement and balance of boaters, hunters, anglers, hikers, OHV users and snowmobilers. A 140-pound person who drinks five 12-ounce beers in two hours can have a blood alcohol content (BAC) of .10 and up and is considered legally intoxicated in most states.

A number of factors can influence alcohol's effects. Drinking on an empty stomach, or drinking when you're under stress, fatigued or on medication can all increase alcohol's impact. How fast you drink and the amount of alcohol in your drink also are important factors.

In addition, remedies such as coffee and cold showers won't help you sober up any faster. Only time can eliminate alcohol from your blood stream.

Although state laws governing outdoor recreation and alcohol use vary, many call for strict fines and possible prison sentences. For example, operating a boat under the influence is illegal in all states, but in Virginia and Oregon, drunken boaters can earn a $2,500 fine and a year in jail, according to a 1990 Coast Guard survey. Hunting while intoxicated in Pennsylvania can result in a $300 fine and a one-year hunting license revocation. States also are improving their ability to detect intoxication in outdoor recreationists through the use of devices such as preliminary breath testers. In addition, outdoor user groups are cracking down on alcohol consumption during many outdoor recreation activities.

What You Can Do:

- Avoid alcohol consumption while actively involved in every type of outdoor recreation activity where safety is a concern. Save the beer or whiskey until after the hunt, OHV riding or waterskiing.

- Report recreationists who are using alcohol irresponsibly and endangering others and themselves.

THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

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Izaak Walton League of America
Outdoor Ethics Resource List

"Proceedings of the International Conference on Outdoor Ethics" November 8 to 11, 1987, Lake Ozark, Mo. Izaak Walton League of America.

A 152-page document containing speeches, workshop papers and transcripts by international experts on outdoor ethics issues. Covers topics such as hunting, camping, hiking, recreational vehicle, historical/archeological site ethics, outdoor ethics education and landowner relations. $5

"Hunter Ethics: A Look at Hunter Behavior and Hunter Education in the U.S. and Canada" by Denis Elliott, Izaak Walton League of America Outdoor Ethics Program coordinator.

A report on the current state of hunter ethics and how ethical/responsible hunter behavior is promoted. Trends in hunter behavior and hunter education also are discussed, along with new recommendations for improving our ability to encourage ethical hunter behavior. $5

Outdoor Ethics newsletter

A free, quarterly, eight-page newsletter that provides a forum for debate and information-sharing on responsible outdoor use by recreationists.

IWLA Outdoor Ethics Information Packet

A packet containing fact sheets, brochures, public service announcements, Outdoor Ethics newsletter and other materials dealing with outdoor ethics issues. Copies are $4 each or $3.50 each for orders of 10 or more.

"Common Sense, Common Courtesy, Common Interests: A Boater's Guide to Ethics on the Water"

A six-panel, two-color brochure on boating ethics. Individual copies are free. Postage and handling costs for multiple copies are $5 for 100 copies, $6 for 250, $7 for 500 and $9 for 1,000.

"The Future of Hunting Is In Our Hands: Let's Not Shoot Down Our Chances"

A six-panel, two-color brochure on hunting ethics. The first 100 copies of the brochure are free, with postage and handling costs of $5 per hundred for additional copies.

"Recreation, Resources and Respect: The IWLA Outdoor Ethics Program"

A six-panel, two-color brochure on outdoor ethics and the Izaak Walton League of America's outdoor ethics initiatives. The first 100 copies of the brochure are free, with postage and handling costs of $5 per hundred for additional copies.

Grassroots Ike Program (GRIP)

An information kit on a county-wide hunter/landowner relations initiative. Included is a research model, organization and action plan and a promotional video. Cost for the written materials is $10. Cost for the written materials and the video is $30.

"Mending Fences: How to Improve Relationships Between Landowners and Recreationists"

A 12-page manual created by Izaak Walton League members to encourage the opening of private land for public use. One copy is free; additional copies are $2 each.

To order IWLA outdoor ethics materials, please send a list of items and a check, made payable to the Izaak Walton League of America, to:

IWLA Outdoor Ethics Materials
1401 Wilson Blvd., Level B
Arlington, Va. 22209-2318

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